

A Church Is Burning

Paul Simon

Eb Bb Ab Eb Bb Eb

A church is burn - - - ing

Ab Bb Eb Bb Eb

the flames rise high - er

Gm Fm

like hands that are pray - ing

Ab Bb Fm Bb

a - glow in the sky

Eb

Like hands that are praying

Ab Gm Fm Eb

the fi - re is saying,

Ab Eb

You can burn down my churches

Bb7 Eb Bb Eb Bb Eb Bb Eb Bb Eb Fm

but I shall be - e free.

Eb

Three hooded men thru the backroads did creep

Fm

Torches in their hands while

Eb

the village lies a-sleep

Ab Fm Eb

Down to the church where

Db Eb

just hours be-fore

Ab Fm Eb

voices were singing and

Ab Fm Eb

hands were beating and

Ab Bb Eb Bb Eb

saying I won t be a slave any-more.

Eb Bb Ab Eb Bb Eb
And a church is burn - - - - ing

Ab Bb Eb Bb Eb
the flames rise high - er

Gm Fm
like hands that are pray - ing

Ab Bb Fm Bb
a - glow in the sky

Eb
Like hands that are praying

Ab Gm Fm Eb
the fi - re is saying,

Ab Eb
You can burn down my churches

Bb7 Eb Bb Eb Bb Eb Bb Eb Fm
but I shall be - e free.

Eb
Three hooded men, their hands lit the spark

Fm
Then they faded in the night

Eb
and they vanished in the dark

Ab Fm Eb
And in the cool light of morning

Ab Fm Eb
there s nothing that re-mains

Ab Eb
But the ashes of a bible and

Bb7 Eb
a can of kero-sene

Eb Bb Ab Eb Bb Eb
And a church is burn - - - - ing

Ab Bb Eb Bb Eb
the flames rise high - er

Gm Fm
like hands that are pray - ing

Ab **Bb Fm Bb**
a - glow in the sky

Eb
Like hands that are praying

Ab Gm Fm Eb
the fi - re is saying,

Ab **Eb**
You can burn down my churches

Bb7 **Eb Bb Eb Bb Eb Bb Eb Fm**
but I shall be - e free.

Eb
A church is more than just timber and stone

Fm
And freedom is a dark road

Eb
When you re walking it a-lone

Ab **Fm Eb**
But the future is now

Ab **Fm Eb**
and it s time to take a stand

Ab **Eb**
So the lost bells of freedom

Bb7 **Eb**
can ring out in my land

Eb **Bb** **Ab** **Eb Bb Eb**
And a church is burn - - - - ing

Ab Bb Eb Bb Eb
the flames rise high - er

Gm **Fm**
like hands that are pray - ing

Ab **Bb Fm Bb**
a - glow in the sky

Eb
Like hands that are praying

Ab Gm Fm Eb
the fi - re is saying,

Ab Fm Eb Cm
You can burn down my churches

Ab Bb Ab Fm Eb Bb Eb Fm Eb Bb Eb
but I - I - I - I shall be free.